



Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration

5600 Fishers Lane • Rockville, MD 20857  
www.samhsa.gov • 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727)



FOIA Case 07162019S180

November 5, 2019

Austin R. Evers  
Khahilia Y. Shaw  
American Oversight  
1030 15<sup>th</sup> St., NW, B255  
Washington, DC 20005  
[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org)

Dear Mr. Evers and Ms. Shaw:

This letter is the final response to your July 16, 2019, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for all communications, including email messages, email attachments, calendar invitations, memoranda or background material for meetings, or handwritten or typed notes taken during meetings between Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Elinor McCance-Katz or any person communicating on her behalf, and any employee or representative of Cove Strategies, including, but not limited to, Matthew A. Schlapp.

SAMHSA staff conducted a search for responsive records sent between October 1, 2017 and the current date but no such records were located. Therefore, we are closing our file on this case. There will be no charges in this instance because the billable costs are less than our threshold of \$25.

You may appeal this finding. By filing an appeal, you preserve your rights under FOIA and give the agency a chance to review and reconsider your request and the agency's decision. Your appeal must be mailed within 90 days from the date of receipt of this letter, to:

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs  
Agency Chief FOIA Officer  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs  
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 729H  
Washington, DC 20201  
[foiarequest@psc.hhs.gov](mailto:foiarequest@psc.hhs.gov)

Please clearly mark both the envelope and your letter "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact the SAMHSA FOIA Officer OR the HHS FOIA Public Liaison for assistance at:

HHS FOIA Public Liaison  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.; Room 729H

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Washington, DC 20201  
Telephone: (202) 260-0793; E-mail: [HHS\\_FOIA\\_Public\\_Liaison@hhs.gov](mailto:HHS_FOIA_Public_Liaison@hhs.gov)

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our FOIA Public Liaison, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), the Federal FOIA Ombudsman's office, offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road–OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
Telephone: 202-741-5770; Toll-Free: 1-877-684-6448  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); Fax: 202-741-5769

Respectfully,

Siobhan Dugan  
FOIA Officer